

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5995

E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJ: CONSULTATIONS ON CRITICISM OF NATO AT UN

REF: (A) USNATO 5898 (B) STATE 255715 (C) USUN 5409

1. NATO POLADS ON NOVEMBER 3 DISCUSSED FRG PROPOSAL FOR NATO CONSULTATIONS ON THE PROBLEM OF UN RESOLUTIONS WHICH CONDEMN NATO. UK REP (MARGETSON) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES TOOK A "ROBUST" ATTITUDE ON THIS ISSUE AND SEE NO REASON WHY THE SOVIETS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO "GET AWAY WITH SMEARING NATO" AT THE UN. THE UK DELEGATION AT THE UN IS READY TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER ALLIES IN DOING THE NECESSARY CORRIDOR WORK; FURTHERMORE, HMG BELIEVES THE ALLIES SHOULD VOTE AGAINST SUCH RESOLUTIONS AND NOT MERELY ABSTAIN. HE SPECIFICALLY SINGLED OUT THE VOTING RECORDS OF PORTUGAL AND TURKEY ON RESOLUTIONS WITH ANTI-NATO WORDING, AND ASKED THAT THE PORTUGUESE AND TURKISH REPS REPORT TO THEIR AUTHORITIES THE VIEWS OF OTHER ALLIES ABOUT SUCH RESOLUTIONS.

2. ITALIAN REP (FERRETTI), WHO PREVIOUSLY SERVED AT UN, OPINED THAT IF ALL THE ALLIES MAINTAIN A SOLID FRONT AGAINST OBJECTIONABLE PARAGRAPHS IN DRAFT RESOLUTIONS, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE IN SOME CASES TO ELIMINATE THE CRITICAL REFERENCES TO NATO. HE AND TURKISH REP (ERALP, ALSO A UN VETERAN)
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DISCOURSED AT SOME LENGTH ON RELATIVE MERITS OF TACTICS OF ABSTAINING AS TO PARTICULAR PARAGRAPHS OF A RESOLUTION WHILE VOTING IN FAVOR OF THE WHOLE VS. VOTING AGAINST PARTICULAR PARAGRAPHS WHILE ABSTAINING ON THE WHOLE. SEVERAL OTHER POLADS,

WHILE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, SPOKE PERSONALLY IN FAVOR OF RESISTING GRATUITOUS SLURS AGAINST NATO. US REP (LEDOGAR) DREW ON GUIDANCE IN REF B. TURKISH REP AND PORTUGUESE REP (DE MACEDO) SAID THEY WOULD REPORT SPECIFIC BRITISH COMMENTS ON THEIR UN VOTING RECORDS.

3. FRG REP (CITRON) EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR ALLIES' VIEWS AND NOTED THAT THE RESOLUTION REFERRER TO BY HIS AMBASSADOR DURING OCTOBER 29 NAC MEETING (PARA 1, REF A) WAS EXPECTED TO BE VOTED UPON BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 10. CITRON ASKED THAT AS MANY ALLIES AS POSSIBLE ENGAGE IN NEW YORK CORRIDOR WORK WITH A VIEW TO SEEKING DELETION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION'S OBJECTIONABLE REFERENCE TO NATO.

4. COMMENT: IT IS NOT CLEAR AT THIS JUNCTURE WHETHER THE COMMITTEE WILL RETURN AGAIN TO THIS SUBJECT IN SUBSEQUENT WEEKS OR WHETHER THE VIEW WILL PREVAIL THAT THE ISSUE OF CRITICISM OF NATO AT THE UN HAS BEEN SUFFICIENTLY AIRED. IN ANY CASE, THERE IS CLEARLY NO SENTIMENT AMONG THE ALLIES IN FAVOR OF REACHING POLICY DECISIONS HERE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS ON MATTERS OF STRATEGY AND TACTICS IN UN FORUMS. STREATOR

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